WENDELL POST

Vol. XI No. 1 April/May 1988 50¢

Road Boss Resigns

Friday, April 15 was the last day on the Town payroll for Road Boss Ron Grogan. He had handed in his notice of resignation to the road commission two weeks earlier, according to Chairman Joseph Hartjens. Grogan said he will work for a private driveway contractor in Orange.

Asked the reason for leaving, Grogan said he was leaving for better paying work. Asked if there were any other dissatisfactions, he admitted, "It's a little of everything." Hartjens said as far as he was aware, money was the only issue.

Grogan leaves only two weeks before the scheduled completion of the new highway/fire station, which is expected to usher in a new era and heightened morale for the two departments. The road crew has been working out of the cramped and damp quarters of the present garage on Locke Village Road across from Cooleyville Road.

Many townspeople considered Grogan was doing an outstanding job in conjunction with the new road commission over the last four years maintaining and improving the roads of Town. The Post received several letters during that time complimenting Grogan and his crew.

In his new job Grogan said he will make considerably more than he does now...though admitting that the loss of paid sick days and medical coverage will hurt. According to Hartjens, the road boss's pay has been $9.26 per hour.

Grogan was elected highway surveyor in 1984 and worked a year as road boss under the previous system in which his bosses were the Board of Selectmen. When the newly established highway commission took office in 1985, he was appointed to continue as road boss.

Grogan and his wife and children live on Mormon Hollow Road.

Hartjens admitted it "hurts" to lose Grogan. He said the road commissioners will advertise and post notices regarding the opening as soon as they finish writing a job description.

Jonathon von Ranson

Annual Town Meeting

Election May 2

Polls Open 10am~8pm

Town Meeting

DATE NOT YET SET

Mary Gilman's Art In N.Y. Show

Artist, homemaker Mary C. Gilman of Wendell has had her painting, Popov, selected from thousands of entries to be shown in the annual student show Illustrators in New York City on April 25.

Mary graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design before marrying her husband, Adin Gilman, coming to Wendell, and raising her two children, Kyle and Emily. She has been attending the Illustrators' Studio in Northampton for the past two years, and hopes to do illustrations for children's books and magazine stories.

Mary has done several drawings for the Wendell Post front page.

See the above picture of Popoff, the Russian Clown.

Susan DunLany

Wendell Post 11 Years Old

Post Office Looks For New Home

A move is in the offing for the Center Post Office. Its current lease expires in October of this year, and the leaseholders, Merle and Gladys Powling, have informed postal authorities that they don't want to renew.

The search for new quarters has been delayed by events within the U.S. Postal Service, according to Postmaster Bernard S. "Bennie" Borowski, possibly related to service-wide budget cuts, or personnel changes within the Real Estate Division in Connecticut. These delays have prompted the Powlings to agree to keep the post office on a month-to-month basis until the move is arranged, Borowski said.

From the postmaster's perspective, several possibilities are emerging, two involving private parties and two involving public buildings, all in the center to town. Wendell Country Store has expressed an interest in housing the post office, and Rick Drohan, whose property is located across Depot Road from the new fire station - highway garage, has expressed an interest in building and leasing for the purpose. Borowski also mentioned the plans to move both the fire department and the pre-school from their present quarters and speculated that these changes might present opportunities for combined uses involving the post office.

Jonathan von Ranson

WENDELL POST

Vol. XI No. 1

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*"Post" policy is that every article be signed. We regret author credit omissions where authorship was unknown.

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And the winner is...Iris Evernow! Iris seems to enjoy the sandwich she named at the counter of the Wendell Country Store.

"Futterwich" Winner

"Futter-wich is the name of the sandwich and the winner of the "noname" sandwich contest is Iris Evernow of Wendell. Iris along with about 100 other residents of Wendell and surrounding towns submitted lots of creative names for the sandwich. It was a hard choice but one that gave us much pleasure. We even had people mailing in suggestions. Our thanks to all our patrons for participating in the contest.

Iris plan to use her gift certificate for items she'll want throughout the summer.

Cheryl and Pat

Wendell To Vote On Star Wars

Voters in Wendell will have a chance to voice their opinion on Star Wars at the town election in May. The ballot question, on whether the people of Wendell are for the militarization of space or would rather see its peaceful and cooperative exploration, has been placed there by the Western Mass. Coalition to Stop Star Wars.

Nearly 40 towns in Western Mass. will be discussing the SDI resolution at their annual town meetings. Wendell can send a message to the rest of the country by being the first to vote on Star Wars at an election.

Maybe Wendell will be the first step in a national campaign to Stop Star Wars. The 798 people of Wendell are sending over 10,000 this year alone to the SDI program and will send thousands more it this program continues. Vote in May and send a message to Washington.

New Salem Clean-up

On Saturday, May 7, the Swift River Valley Historical Society will conduct its annual "Clean-up Day" of the group's Elm St. buildings and grounds. The Society invites members and friends who wish to participate in this annual Spring cleaning effort to assemble at the Whittaker-Clary House on Elm St. at 10:00 a.m. Workers are asked to bring their own cleaning equipment (window cleaner, rags, rakes, wheelbarrows, etc.) and a lunch. All are welcome!

Jos. Wm. Russell
Publicity Director
413 323-6921 or 7883

Commercial Photography

Wendell Ma. 544-3529

Edward Judice 544-2739

Hazardous Waste Collection June 11 9AM ~ 12 noon

For the second time, Wendell will be participating in a county household hazardous waste collection day. This time it will be much more costly for us (apx.$6-700) because state grants are not as magnanimous as they were for us as first timers. You might begin preparing now collecting all HOUSEHOLD hazardous wastes you have wisely with-held from the dump. Containers must be labeled so the workers can safely separate or combine chemicals. Before transporting, check lids to protect self and others. Use kitty litter in a larger container to absorb leaks. Do not combine different or unknown materials.

Fifteen other towns will be joining with us in June and there will be 4 county sites. The one closest to us (E.County), is in Orange at the Armory, easily found near the center of town. Only people from participating towns can discharge at any of these sites. It will help to have ID, but in a town like Wendell which enjoys five different post offices, a street list will be on site.

I must impress upon you that first come, first served, is the motto. We have ordered the amount to barrels we can afford due to the high cost of disposal--apx. $300/barrel. Therefore, if all are filled early, the armory will "close up shop." So please plan an early town trip on that spring morning if you plan one at all.

Five towns will be utilizing the Armory site: Orange, Wendell, Warwick, Erving and New Salem.

Only household quantities will be accepted.

No commercial or large quantities of agricultural chemicals accepted.

ACCEPTED: Waste oil--gratis of Orange--25¢/gal. gratefully accepted, car batteries--gratis of Orange, perticides, insecticides, solvents, turpentine, thinner, wood preservatives, strippers, automotive fluids, pool chemicals, medicines, acids, cleaners, polishes, photo chemicals and art supplies.

NOT ACCEPTED: pressurized containers, silvex,2,4,5-T, radio-active materials, explosives (take to police), latex paint (dry out and take to dump), wastes from businesses, farms or commercial enterprises.

Wendell will be communicating with Orange to thank them for their services. Their fire dept. will be on call and other town workers will be at the site. They have made it possible to collect waste oil, dispose of car batteries in bulk and other waste materials (cartons), generated by the program. All towns have offered to divide costs, but Orange has generously been able to offer more than we could if we were host town. I appreciate our neighbors as we work together on this project, and especially the HWC from Orange, Elwin Deveneau. Erving has offered to hire an officer for those hours and we will have our HWC (hazardous waste coordinator) on duty collecting data and helping out as well as Warwick and New Salem. Our fire dept. has been alerted to mark their calendars.

So, drive carefully that day considering what you are transporting and if possible, leave the kids at home. Next time you shop read labels, buy only quantities you need, seek alternatives and reduce the amount of toxics in our lives.

COMING NEXT ISSUE: Alternatives to household hazardous wastes, information leaflets will be available on June 11 on this topic. Contact me for additional information.

Your HWC (and mine),
Nina Keller

HAPPY SPRINGTIME WENDELL!
"May your moccasins make happy tracks in many snows, and may the rainbow always touch your shoulder." (Indian Blessing) ...Thank goodness our moccasins are making tracks in green grass now!

Clare Green

Development Worries

IF YOU HAVE BEEN APPROACHED TO SELL YOUR LAND PLEASE READ THIS BEFORE SIGNING THE BOTTOM LINE!!!

A group of local citizens have organized a land conservation trust ready to assist landowners to protect the important natural features of their property such as, water aquifers, productive forest and farmlands soils, important and unusual wildlife habitats,streambank protection, and improtant scenic views. We feel that Wendell has a variety of features that make it a special place to live. Development cannot be stopped but we can DIRECT the development in a way to protect the reasons we all live here. The trust can help landowners prepare conservation oriented development plans that protects Wendell's environment and still receive full value for their property.

The Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust was incorporated at the Warwick Inn in June 1986. The Trust received its non-profit tax status (501 (c)(3)) in December of 1987. The Trust was developed during the winter of 1985-86, by citizens concerned with the rapid unorganized development of remaining productive forest and farmlands. The conservation goals that emerged from these meetings solidified into the recognized need for a locally orientated conservation trust. The Trust was incorporated as a non-profit conservation organization in June 1986 for the following purposes:

a) To preserve, to protect, and to promote for present and future generations the balanced use of the remaining open space lands,
b) to identify, develop and demonstrate practical ways to accomplish this goal through the acquisition of conservation easements and other real property interests,
c) to assist local governments and citizen organizations to develop the practice of balanced land use, and
d) to further develop and promote an appreciation and understanding of the inter-relationships between people and their shared environment.

To implement these purposes, the Board of Directors developed three courses of action; First, develop a system to hold perpetual conservation restrictions on private land. Second, provide conservation planning services to local governments and private landowners. And third, establish a long term program of conservation education.

The Trust became involved in the preservation of the Lawton Tree Farm, in Athol, as its first major project because of the local significance of the property and the strong local support. The success of this project and our involvement with other projects in Northfield and Petersham have helped the Trust develop a variety of techniques that can be of assistance to local landowners.

Concerned citizens, or Friends of the Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust, Inc. who are able to contribute support will enable the Trust to become more active and have a greater impact on the conservation goals of our region. All donations are tax deductible.

I hope to write a report as often as possible describing how conservation planning can generate the income a landowner may require and still help protect the wise use of our areas natural resources.

For information contact Keith Ross at 5 Chestnut Hill Warwick, MA 01364 544-2181 or Mike Idoine at Locks Village Road Wendell MA 01379 544-2623.

Horseshoeing
Tony Diemand 544-2851

Gail Ainsworth Krutka creates to music in "Journey to the Source." photo Mez Davis

Wendell Votes

On super Tuesday, Wendell Democrats joined Democrats from the towns of Amherst, Hawley, Leyden, Heath, Ashfield, Conway, Shutesbury, Buckland, Leverett, and New Braintree, as well as the states of Georgia, Lousiana, Mississippi, and Virginia in supporting Jesse as presidential candidate. In both Wendell and Leverett Democrats gave Jackson a margin of 2:1 over Michael Dukakis, but in the other towns the vote was closer. Richard Gephardt got 7 votes and Paul Simon got one vote.

Wendell had fewer Republicans than Democrats voting; Robert Dole won, followed by George Bush and Jack Kemp.

Massachusetts Democrats and Republicans voted contrary to Wendell by supporting Michael Dukakis and George Bush as presidential candidates.

(Information is from March 9, 1988 Springfield Union News)

The next week, at a special town meeting, Wendell voters authorized an additional $200,000 for the Swift River School addition raising the amount authorized high to cover the lowest bid. Construction began almost immediately.

Those present also approved a nine page set of by-laws, developed by the conservation commission, defining wetlands and regulating their use.

Joshua Heinemann

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Mahar's Reach Program

I would like to share with you a wonderful experience I had with 16 of Marhar's project reach students, a dedicated teacher, Miss Chase, and the project coordinators, John Dowd and Anna Karola.

It was to be a highly structured and supervised 24 hour experience in which the students would be active for 20 out of 24 hours.

We started out in the lovely town of Petersham on Saturday morning, April 9th. All day we worked on different activities, each one more difficult than the one before.

In the morning we were asked to pick a partner, sit on the ground back-to-back, lock arms, and stand up together without using our hands. Another challenge was letting ourselves fall backwards, trusting our partners who were behind us to catch us before we hit the ground. Our partners were always there for us, and us for them. The kids were going to have to draw on that trust they were building up.

By lunch time, the kids, and the six adults present one by one, were standing on a 5 ft. high post, and falling backwards into the waiting groups' arms.

After a lunch of bread, cheese, nuts, and juice, we broke up into small groups with maps and compasses to spend the afternoon on orienteering skills. The group of students that I was with found one marker out of three, but no-one seemed to care, we were having a grand time.

John and Anna brought us all to a huge cabbage pine tree, big enough for all 13 students to climb and sit in. Beneath it, supper was eaten and many a soul searching conversation was heard.

The mood was changing. Darkness was surrounding us, and no light was allowed. No campfire, no flashlights. Total Darkness. By 10 PM we had each found our own backpack, and slowly headed out, single-file, through the woods. Some holding hands, some holding on to the person's pack in front of them. When one person would stumble, the line would hold up.

We slowly made our way to the river where John and Colin Garland from Raven Adventures in Greenfield were waiting with "zip line".

Slowly, one by one, I heard the students go down to the river. When my turn came, Colin helped me with my helmet and harness, and clipped me to the line that would zip me across the river. He patiently explained to me how the system worked, and told me that there was even a back-up safety system in case the first one failed. Before I knew it, I was on the other side of the river being unharnessed and congratulated.

By 1:30 AM, we were at an open field in our sleeping bags under the stars. What a subdued bunch. I didn't hear one student complain about having to go to sleep!!

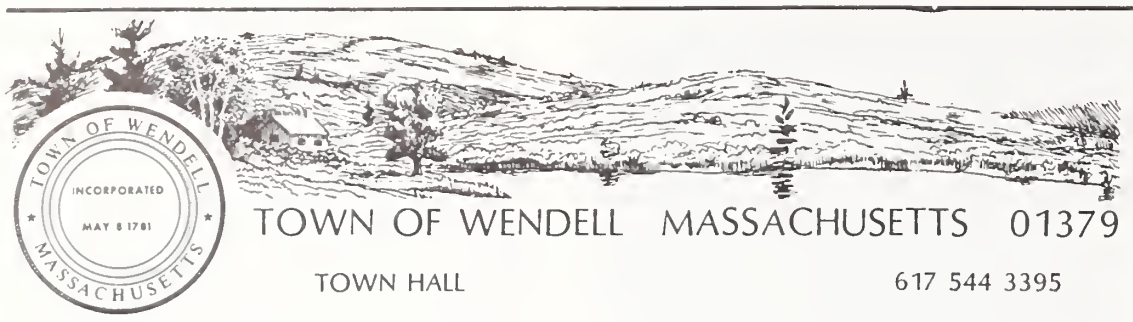
John was singing silly songs and waking us up at 5:30 AM sharp. There were more fun circle games after breakfast, and then it was time to load our gear into the vans and head back. We arrived at Marhar tired but happy at 10:15 AM.

They call what we did a 24 hour experience, and for me it surely was. I was lucky enough to share it with my 13 year old daughter, Billie-Sue, and my nephew and niece, Ben and Michelle.

I think it is wonderful that Marhar has a program like this. What a fantastic experience in problem solving and leadership skills for these children.

They are a terrific bunch of kids. I know they will take the memories of these project reach weekends with them for the rest of their lives.

Linda Diemand



TOWN OF WENDELL MASSACHUSETTS 01379

TOWN HALL 617 544 3395

REPORT FROM THE PLANNING BOARD

"Protect our rural character" ..... and "We want lots of freedom in how we arrange our houses and divide our land." We don't want traditional zoning that will suburbanize our town into three acre parcels."

These are the messages that the citizens of Wendell have sent to the Planning Board in the open meetings held February through April at the Wendell Town Hall. After an open meeting in February to gather ideas from the community, the Planning Board got together with Gwen Hallsmith, Franklin County Land Use Planner, to generate specific proposal options to be reviewed by interested Wendell citizens in a series of Monday evening meetings. These community work groups reviewed and refined the zoning options leaving us with by-law suggestions.

In order to provide flexibility along with protection, a wide variety of ideas are now being proposed. Many of these ideas are not quite recommendations at this point, but we are moving in that direction. Please give us your reactions to these ideas and come to the meeting on Monday, April 18.

PROPOSED BY-LAW SUGGESTIONS:

Density: a) One single dwelling unit (principle building) would be limited to our current 3 acre, 200' frontage building lot.

b) 1-duplex, 2 family, or single unit with attached apartment would be allowed on our current 3 acre lot with 200' frontage.

c) Question????? Should 3-unit dwellings be allowed in Wendell at all? If so, what should the density requirement be?

d) No building may exceed 3 stories or 3 dwelling units.

BACKLOT: Our current backlot law inadvertantly allows for a subversion of our new Subdivision Regulations and puts our interior land in jeopardy of uncontrolled development. We hope this by-law will encourage individuals to make use of the available back land, leaving subdivision regulations to guide more ambitious development.

NEW BACKLOT PROPOSAL:

a) 30-50' frontage on an approved way leading to a 5 acre parcel.

b) 1 dwelling unit per backlot.

c) Only 1 backlot may be created from a single larger parcel.

PHASED GROWTH:

This proposal is designed to protect the Town of Wendell from being overrun by uncontrollable growth. It is a legitimate but temporary tool other communities are using to buy time to develop sufficient basic public facilities and a master plan to manage growth

In recent years Wendell has averaged 15 building permits for dwelling units each year While the details of this proposed by-law are not yet worked out, the idea would be to limit the number of building permits issued each year to between 15-20, for a period of 5 years while the Town services and a Master Plan are developed. It would be designed such that a large number of permits could not go to any one individual in a given year. Criteria would be established for issuing building permits that would promote the goals of the community as stated in the Purpose Section of the Wendell Zoning By-Laws.

LOW-IMPACT HOUSING BY-LAW:

Many people have approached the Planning Board to request that the new zoning provide incentives for an environmentally sensitive life-style and alternative approaches to dwelling unit groupings (principal buildings)

This proposal would allow dwelling units in a residential development to be arranged together into 1 or more groups on 1 acre lots per dwelling unit and separated from adjacent properties and other groups by undeveloped land.

Under this option 35%-40% of the development would be left as undeveloped or open land.

FLEXIBLE DEVELOPMENT FOR SMALL PROJECTS:

Flexible development is an optional development device designed to encourage efficient use of Wendell's topography, preserve open space, and maintain the overall density allowed through the Town's zoning.

a) Any parcel may be divided into not more than 3 lots, whether a subdivision or not, and built upon according to the following alternative acreage and frontage requirements:

1) The average frontage of the 3 lots will be 200', but individual lots may have frontage of as little as 2/3 of that requirement (133').

2) The individual lot area may be as little as 1.5 acres but total density for the development will average no less than 3 acres per dwelling unit.

The Planning Board will be holding neighborhood meetings around town during the months of April and May to review these proposals. If you would like to host one of these meetings in your home or be invited to one, please contact the Planning Board. After the neighborhood meetings we will hold a public hearing followed by a Special Town Meeting in early June.

In order to keep to our schedule, we need to hear from you. Please try to attend your neighborhood meeting. Our job is to translate your desires into workable zoning by-laws. Wendell's future belongs to us all - Please Help Us!!!!

Wendell Arts Council

It's that time of year again! The Wendell Arts Council is currently reviewing a total of eight applications that were submitted for the next funding cycle (July to December, 1988) of the Massachusetts Arts Lottery. As of the Post deadline date, final decisions have not been made, but we would like to thank all applicants for their interest and submissions. A total of $1667.00 in funds has been requested. The Arts Council currently receives $750.00 per cycle from the Massachusetts Arts Lottery. Would that we could fund them all! Look for Wendell Arts Council fundraisers in the future to help narrow this gap in capability.

We'd like to let you know some of the programs that were funded already this spring. Jennifer Whitcomb, a relatively new resident in Wendell, has completed an enthusiastically received series of creative movement workshops at Swift River School for first and second graders. Bob Ellis and Charles Smith have embarked on a joint effort ... a history of Wendell, with Charles responsible for the script, and Bob, the illustrations. Bob is currently working on a watercolor painting and Charles has submitted the first draft of an initial chapter. There will be an African Dance and Music workshop with artists from Boston participating sometime within the upcoming months, so keep checking the local posting places! And finally, as the culmination to an enriching art experience within the Swift River School, on March 26, The Amherst Ballet Company came to the school and performed an enchanting ballet based on the works of the modern Spanish painter, Joan Miro. Students in the fifth and sixth grade provided the background for the performance in murals and "Miro wish sticks." The choreographer-director of the Amherst Ballet, Therese Donohue, also gave a short slide presentation of the artist's work in conjunction with the performance. Tickets were free to children, grades K - 12, under the PASS program (Performing Arts Student Series). This is a relatively new program under the auspices of the Mass. Arts Lottery. It's funding follows the same cycle as other Arts Lottery grants; and any private individual, organization, business, school, etc., may apply for the funds. It enables children in grades K - 12 to attend performances in dance, music, or drama that are produced by organizations that have been approved by the Mass. Arts Lottery Council. If you are interested in sponsoring such an event, or would like a list of approved participating performers, contact Phyllis Lawrence at 413-367-2175.

And finally, the Wendell Arts Council wishes to thank Teri Nelson Koehler for all her work over the past several years as a committed member, and most especially for her introduction and organization of the Wendell Sing-A-Longs last summer. We welcome Jennifer Whitcomb, our new member, to the Council.

That's all for now. Hope to see you at the next Arts Council event!

Phyllis Lawrence
Chairperson
Wendell Arts Council

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Salmon Rival Run

JOIN THE SALMON REVIVAL RUN

by Robert B. Streeter

A beautiful idea was born during a January weekend in Rowe, MA. A group of some 50 people from around the Northeast had gathered at Rowe Camp and Conference Center with Dave Foreman, publisher and editor of "Earth First". We discussed philosophy, issues and strategy regarding the defense of wilderness and the restoration of ecosystems we have managed to sour. Two issues were agreed upon for further action: the road building and deficit timbersale policies of the National Forest Service, and the growing concern over Patten Corporation, New England's largest land speculator.

A third idea was put forth to the gathering by Barry Auskern, an ex Long Islander with a sharp mind and quick wit. Why not dress up like Atlantic Salmon and canoe the Connecticut River from sea to source, calling attention not only to the plight of salmon, but the critical need to restore the river and its watershed to a healthy, free-flowing existence? The idea was embraced like any good seed in a bed of fertile soil, and the Salmon Revival Run is now scheduled for June.

* * * *

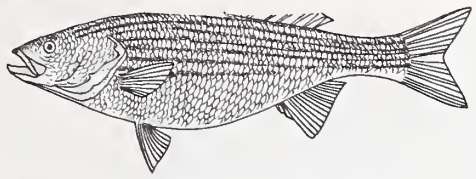
Organizers of the event, as well as many others in the Northeast, have a simple and altruistic vision for the future of the Connecticut River, a vision that looks to the past. Why not a river that flows unencumbered by concrete, a watershed that is once again vibrant with life from the most primitive protozoans to the wolf and eagle, the salmon and the wolverine? Why not a river where human beings respect and yield to the necessity of a flood plain? Why not a vision for the river that helps restore a system that actually works, an ecosystem that was not created in seven fictitious days, but fine-tuned and evolved itself over thousands of years?

The tentative schedule for the Salmon Revival Run looks like this: Beneath the full moon of May 31, the launching begins at Old Saybrook, CT. The weekend of June 3-4 will be spent near the Connecticut Yankee nuclear power plant and the following weekend in the vicinity of Holyoke Dam. June 17-19 will be spent in Turners Falls, where the first dam that stopped the salmon migration was built. Bellows Falls, VT will be reached the following weekend and the journey will conclude around July 4th in the White River region for a salmon and wolverine patriots rally.

* * * *

Each weekend throughout the event, organizers hope to initiate local celebrations, expressing gratitude to individuals and organizations working to restore portions of the watershed. There will be guerrilla theater, political actions and talks about the ecology and specific issues of each section of the watershed.

Local inhabitants along the river are encouraged to join the salmon flotilla for a day, week or longer. (Anyone wanting to participate or help with preparations should contact Barry Auskern. Salmon Revival Run, P.O. Box 324, Rowe, MA 01367. They're looking for a few good salmon.) The group is also planning to compile a directory of restoration work that has been done, is being done or needs to be done along the river.



I have no doubt about the long term healing powers of nature; whatever we do will eventually be undone. The Salmon Revival Run is an event that celebrates those powers and offers a plea to the people of New England to move toward a workable, sustainable society that recognizes the wisdom of a free-flowing Connecticut River.

Local Contact: Susan DunLany 544-7425

Notes From The Herb Field

Once again all around us the Earth is greening, beginning to show us the beautiful cloak of life she weaves for us each Spring! Dandelion greens, along with wild mustard, wintercress, yellowdock, and chickweed are now big enough to find and pick for the first wild green salads that liven and refresh the old winter fare. It's a natural time for appetities to rest a bit, and the lift the greens do give, keeps us in tune with everything else springing up around our feet. So, grab a paper bag and a pair of snips and head out your back door to check out your local salad bar! One caution ... if you're not sure of your identification of a plant, find a good book with clear pictures or photos. Or better still, find a neighbor who knows the weeds to help you out ... picking with a friend brings even more enthusiasm and joy to the experience.

In the garden, the leaves are unfurling to greet the sun and most of the plants made it through the winter with little damage from voles (though their tunnels were quite extensive this year ... they love those tender roots!) or winterkill. I came across an article this winter that suggested placing children's pinwheels through the garden to discourage moles and voles from staying in the garden. The critters don't like the reverberations underground and so head out. Sounds like a pretty addition to the garden, too! Can't see how it would work in the winter with snow cover we can get, though? One plant I cannot seem to winter over is parsley. Plants that were full and healthy in the fall seem to have rotted away when I pull back the mulch each spring. Any hints out there?

This is the time to rim back those dead branches and stems that were missed last fall to give each plant the room to reach up and out as far as it would like. Catching weeds at the early stage now will make any further weeding this season a lot easier, and it's a great excuse to get outside! Not that any of us really needs an excuse to get out and, like the plants, reach up and out for the sun, the beauty, the life all around us, calling us and touching us with warmth and joy!

Happy Spring!

Kate Gilday

Millers River Reader

Here we are living our lives in the hills and valleys surrounding the Millers River. What do we do here? What do we dream? What do we look back on; where are we going? Somebody could write a book about what it is really like.

Allen Young, Mr. Millers River Publishing Co., of Athol, Ma., has been doing just that. The result is a book called The Millers River Reader. In this book, we are the main characters. Inside the honest green cover is an anthology of thoughtfully collected, organized and edited articles, poems, photos and drawing, most of which have appeared in local newspapers (including the'Wendell Post') over the last ten years. Reading this book is like traveling to town. One recognizes people and landmarks all along the way. It's a book that can be read with a purpose or casually opened to any spot. The stories are both familiar and full of surprises. Townspeople like Waffles the Clown and Ed Judice, the photographer, are in there, as are more distant great lives, music makers, riders, farmers, philosophers, etc. From East Templeton to Warwick, impressions were gleaned about our area, including Small Pox Cemetery, Quabbin myths, otters, Morris Dancers, the Farley Scarecrows, and tips on tapping trees. With the horsesense of a journalist and the sensitivity of a poet, Allen Young presents us with insights into our own lives via outlooks onto our own stomping grounds, where the waters flow into the Millers.

The Millers River Reader can be bought at the Wendell Depot Store or ordered directly by mail from Allen Young at this address: Millers River Publishing Co.
Box 159
Athol, MA 01331

Price of the book is $8.95 plus 5% tax. All $1.00 postage for mail order. The Millers River Reader is also available at stores in Greenfield, Orange and Athol. Look for other books by Allen Young, they are wonderful. They make great gifts to people who appreciate good living.

Kathy Becker

Library Notes

The Friends of the Wendell Library have been re-energized, and expect 1988 to be a very good year for meeting new friends and welcoming back old ones to the library.

At their last meeting plans were discussed for a storytime hour on the first and third Saturdays of every mont. The first storytime hour will be on May 7th, at 10:30 am. Our storyteller will be Phyllis Lawrence. Parents are encouraged to browse through the library during storytime.

The Friends are also interested in selling squares of cloth for a quilt. The squares will then be returned and sewn together. A drawing for the completed quilt will be held on Old Home Day.

If you would like to attend the next meeting of the Frineds, or would like more information, please contact this year's chairperson Linda Hickman at 544-8604.

Linda Hickman

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Notice

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FOR BARTER: Use of 12 acres of fenced pasture with water. Desire pasture maintainence in return. Call Steve Gross evenings 544-2649

NOW HIRING: Board of Health needs someone to do sight inspections (perk tests, septic systems, etc.). Person must live in Wendell and be available during daytime hours. call Jessie at 544-3395

FOR SALE: Chicken manure - You can pick up or we can deliver by dump truck laod.
Sawdust - pick it up or delivered
Call Diemand Egg Farm, ask for Peter, phone 544-3806

FOUND: A brown leather briefcase found in the Wendell State Forest. Contact Chief Edward Chase at 544-3554.

FULL MOON COFFEE HOUSE

On April 30 the Wendell coffeehouse will star Judy and the Jets, Wendell's own Judy Bauman. The proceeds will benefit the Wendell Meeting House.

Doors will open at 7:30 and open mike will begin at 8. Don't miss Judith Ann Marie!

Slippery Moon, a local band, will play for a dance at the Wendell Town Hall on Friday, May 13th, 9 - 11:30/p.m. The dance will benefit Salmon Revival Run, the canoe trip up the Connecticut River in June. See the article in this issue.

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Wendell Old Home Day

Wendell Old Home Day will be held on Sat. July 9th, rain or shine.

Events will start around 10 am with the parade. Everyone is welcome to join us in the parade. We'll have the second annual Wendell Kazoo Band, fire truck, clowns, free balloons, etc. Anyone or any organizations are welcome to be part of the parade.

We are still working on the schedule of events for the day. We are definately going to have the children's money hunt, Diemand's chicken B-B-Q, music in the afternoon with the Outer Space Band, a science fair, the Golden Agers remnant and craft booth, and raffles.

There are many ideas that float around at meetings and in just talking with folks in town. We need people who would like to join in many different ways. Maybe to make some of these ideas come to life, perhaps just to take care of a booth for a couple of hours that day or set up the night before. There's lots to do so if you've got the money we've got the time. Just kidding. Any help will be appreciated.

Remember, if it rains we're still going to shine!

If you would like to talk, please call Anne at 4-6111, Lisa at 4-7636, Teri 4-7446

Science Fair At Wendell Old Home Day

Have you ever wanted to prove that plants have feelings, solar ovens can bake pies, dirt can be turned into gold, Mt. Vusuvius can erupt in your kitchen with the help of baking soda?

Here's your chance: Scientists of all ages, children, teens and adults are invited to demonstrate their "Old Home" experiments at Wendell Old Home Day, so drag out your test tubes, skeletons, magnets, graphs and all your other science fair essentials and concoct an experiment that answers once asked questions. Remember, Einstein began his career at a Science Fair.

For more infor call -Joyce Greenberg
544-8457

Day Care Interest

On Mon. evening April 15th a group of parents met at the Wendell Country Store to discuss increasing daycare possibilities for our town.

Several topics were talked about including space options, hours needed, cooperative and paying alternatives and individuals to contact in order to generate interest and support.

Those who attended were Lola Bedaw, Eileen Sauvageau, Candy Hebert, Penny Wilder Mez Davis, Laurie Daniel - Stamell, Cheryl and Pat from the Country Store, and Elizabeth Crawford.

Anyone who has childcare needs or interest please sign up at the Wendell Country Store within the next couple weeks.

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Death

William A. Parson was born in Allendale, South Carolina on Dec. 24, 1919. In 1942 he joined the United States Air Force and served with the 100th Fighter Squadron in Europe. After the war , Bill worked with the New York Central RR for the next ten years. Later he purchased a taxi and worked as a member of the Independent Taxi Operators Association of Boston, untill his retirement in 1984, which was due to poor health.

He served on the board of directors of the Independent Taxi Association and was also a past president of the Nomads Club of Cambridge and Boston.

He leaves to mourn him, his wife,Nellie Thompson Ricketts, two stepsons, Byron and Everett Ricketts of Wendell, sisters, Bertha Parson of Georgia, Janice and Jewise Adams of North Carolina, and a brother, Vincent Parson of North Carolina. Bill also leaves a host of relatives and friends.

Birth

Molly Parson Gomberg was born on March 12, 1988. Elizabeth E. Parson and David N. Gomberg of Jennison Road are the proud parents. Molly was born at the Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield.

Bach Flowers

BACH FLOWER ESSENSES: GENTLE HEALERS

Bach Flower Essenses or Remedies were developed by an English Doctor, Edward Bach in the 1930's. They are carefully prepared essenses from a variety of flowers, originally from the fields and meadows of England. Flower essenses work as gentle catalysts to balance the flow of life energies within the mental, emotional, and spiritual levels of a person. If you would like to know more or experience the gentle healing attributes of the flower essenses, just call me, Clare Green, 544-7421. Fee of 5-10$, or barter.

Fire Dept. Recruiting

The Wendell Fire Dept. is actively looking for new members. Join the fire department? Help others? It's time well spent, even for people who don't have a lot of time to contribute.

Membership is down in the Wendell Fire Department, as it is in most volunteer fire depts. We need people who enjoy excitement, are willing to learn something new, and are able to commit themselves to a common cause. It does cost the Town to outfit a firefighter in safety gear, so we hope you'll stay with us and wear your gear well. Wendell Fire Dept. drills are twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Mondays from 6:30pm-9:00pm. Out of town training opportunities are available to Wendell Fire Dept. volunteer members through various sources, as desired by the individual.

Call Chief Everett Ricketts for more information during evenings at 544-3494 if you are 18 years of age or older, have a Mass. drivers license, are reasonably physically fit, and are willing to consider becoming a resource to the community as a member of the Wendell Fire Department.

Kathy Becker

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Creativity in Wendell

Each Tuesday in January and February, a group of daring adults gathered with me at t the Wendell Preschool for A Journey to the Source-an art class geared toward exploring how we as individuals block and/or express our creativity.

As a group we explored what creativity meant for us and found that there are many places in out lives that we often don't honor for their evidence of our creativity: parenting, the way we create and maintain relationships, the work we choose and how we do it, the way we dress,...examples of the expression of our creativity abound-not the least of which is the ongoing creation and exploration of who we are.

We explored how we block creative expression that we would like to achieve in our lives. We found that while some of our creative blocks go back to unsupportive and often critical parents, teachers, and/or peers, much of our inhibition comes from living in a society that on the whole supports and rewards conformity more than creativity.

Our gatherings offered the opportunity for exploration within the framework of an appreciative and supportive group. Members of the class produced many drawings and paintings but even more importantly, they gave birth to or resurrected within themselves a creative spark-a playfulness and a willingness to take risks. It was an honor to guide and to share in the journey.

Many drawings from A Journey to the Source are on display at the Wendell Meetinghouse. We hope you can stop in some Sunday from now through the beginning of May to see them.

Class members included: Mez Davis, Kate Gilday, Phyllis Brooks, Hope Riley, Amy Hubert, Walter Bachteler, Rosalie Rosser, Barbara Liberty, Brett Alstrom and Gail Ainsworth/Krutka.

Many thanks to the Wendell School Committee and Supt. Len Lubinsky for the use of the preschool for our class. Also, a warm thanks to Wayne Carey for adjusting his schedule to accommodate us. Last but certainly not least, thanks to Mez Davis for providing me with a key to the building each week.

Susan O'Reilly
class facilitator

Peace Through Strength

Peace through strenght is (let's be honest) peace through dictatorship except for the part about "peace".

Peace through dictatorship is, at it's very best, no better than a ceasefire through intimidation. Intimidation always entails the exploitation of lives and the misuse of God - given resources.

This is not peace.

The true peace, therefore, necessarily requires us to keep the window of vulnerability open. To do less, is to protect ourselves from the threat of real peace.

Anon

When I force you,
you resist me.
When I love you,
what is there to resist?

Anon

When one offers friendship to another, what then does the other have to fight about?

Anon

"Rags to Riches"

The Wendell Country Store is proud to announce the opening of "Rags to Riches". (formally known as the free box) We have moved the free box inside and created a swap shop that will be run by Penny Wilder and Lola Bedaw. You bring in your used but abused clothing, receive a credit slip then use the credit slip to purchase other clothing items. You can also bring cash to purchase items. All items taken will be cleaned and repaired before they are put up on display.

Follow the signs from the old free box to the new Rags to Riches and great bargains. See ad on this page for hours.

Wyola Road Race

On Sunday, June 26 the tenth annual Lake Wyola Road Race will happen. There will be men, women and teen categories and masters (40 and over.) Starting time is 10:30 a.m. There is an entry fee of $3. send to Wilhelm A. Frederich, 53 Florence St. Rockville, CT 06066.

OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK

DIVISION (circle)

- Open Division: Man Woman
- Masters: Man (40+) Woman (40+)
- Juniors: 14 & under Boy Girl
- Team event Name of team:_____
- Walking Division (10:00A.M. START!!!)

NAME_____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ CLUB _____

In consideration of the acceptance of my entry, I, for myself, my executors, administrators, and assignees, do hereby release and discharge the town of Shutesbury, the Lake Wyola Association, and any individuals or officials associated with said race from all claims arising or growing out of my participation in said athletic event known as the Lake Wyola Road Race. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in the event and I am physically fit and sufficiently trained to participate in this event.

_____
Signature (parent or guardian if under 18)

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Letters

To the Wendell Post:

By actions of town meetings of the recent and more distant past, Wendell faces an alarming growth in the cost of running the Town. Its expectations for Town services, as manifested in votes to accept state incentives, or borrow or bond, have been recklessly high, and the costs are now forcing up the tax lid known as Proposition 2½. Under the five or six-year-old levy limit, local maintenance costs have been deferred and routine purchases postponed...but actual cuts needed to operate the Town sustainably within a 2½% fiscal growth rate have not been made. Business as Prop 2½ would have it is not business as usual.

Well, let's pass an override, you say. It was just an arbitrary figure, 2½%, fixed into state law for, well...others, not us--towns with runaway tax increases.

Towns like us. The law addresses, in legalistic fashion,the problem of short political memory, of us voters just saying no. The problem isn't just high taxes, and the way they squeeze out poor people. The problem is keeping local government from becoming unmanageable just as the federal government surely has. The problem is deficits, both seen and unseen.

The municipal costs that are bubbling up are made worse by inflation, the code name for repayment of a kind of borrowing that is only semi-conscious--the short-sighted grabbing of resources and the schnookering of workers and peasants now more and more demanding their due. Once a less reckless administration is in place in Washington, these 'demand notes' will be recognized and honored more readily, I suspect. (As most of us sense, the costs of running a civilization have been hidden of late by a smokescreen of wishfulness and bravado--the present brand of conservatism.

In blunt words: the next President, if clear-eyed and honest, will soon look back on today's federal deficit as a practically manageable sum...

...and inflationwise, we ain't seen nothin' yet.

Yes, these predictions might be wrong. The immediate future may not be so limited. In that case, override Proposition 2½. Invest in Town government, and feel OK about committing the citizenry to a wave of growing municipal obligations.

But if they're right, if common sense still makes sense and deficits do someday gather together and roll down on us like a snowball, we'll be better off if today we stay lean and mean.

The only way to do it, if that's your conviction, is to determinedly repay deficuts (including pervasive ones like acid rain and tropical rainforest destruction and Third World destabilization, perhaps through lifestyle changes), and trim local services: highway improvements and maintenance, school staffing and equipment, town administration, and particularly participation in tantalizing state incentive programs.

I'm concerned for our Town that even the status quo--business as usual--may be a little too rich for healthy blood once the ostrich mentality gives way as it someday must, to a pay-the-freight honesty. The proposed budget, as I understand it, pushes our luck. I hope the Selectmen and finance committee will come to Town meeting with ideas for cuts in case the townspeople agree.

Jonathan von Ranson

THE UNSETTLING OF WENDELL

A call for taking simple living seriously

Ah Wendell! Where one who chooses to still can "live simply". A small house built from the sweat of one's own labor. Buy your land for cash, arrive here fairly broke, set up your tents (or old trailer) and begin. Low budget. Using trees or stone from the land, definately some recycled materials or whatever you could afford. Building as there is money. Buildings, lighting systems and water systems scaled down and within our means. Little or no intanglements in bank loans. It often takes a very long time for this kind of Wendell house to be finished. One's shit returning to the earth in outhouses, gardens growing much of one's food.

Voluntary simplicitiy is a decent life. Its labor keeping us close to home and community. Wendell is alive yet with activity monday - friday because of it. The simple economics that come along with the lifestyle gives us flexibility nd personal freedom. It slso keeps alive the rural traditions of resourcefulness, ingenuity, and neighborly exchanges.

Simpler water systems means lower water consumption. Our resourcefulness and low-money economy means less that we have to contribute to the town dump. The lifestyle weaving string threads in the diverse community fabric of Wendell.

Until recently aou ability to live this way was based on several things. Relatively affordable land prices, not too many codes, and those that existed, laxly enforced. This kind of low impact economical living definately fell between the cracks and in the margin of the law but traditionally there was room for it here.

This picture is changing however as the reality of increasingly rapid development encrouches upon Wendell. The prices being asked for land have sky-rocketed. The town has tightened up on most of its inspection programs and is considering ideas of more strict by-laws adopted in neighboring towns. The intent is an important, sincere effort to protect our town from rapid unmanageable growth but it is also slosing the margins and cracks on truely low-cost / low impact living.

Concerned that the implications of this are profound 10 residents gathered one winter night to discuss the situation. "Simply living" for us is more than a quaint notion. It is a way to stay in scale with what we perceive to be an eclogical, fair-share use

Barbara Clearwater Liberty and Hope Riley cooperatively create in "Jouney to the Source.'

of resources -- it is a way to live low impact on the earth. In the face of a culture goung the other way we felt we'd like to see a legal status created that legitimizes and encourages environmentally low-impact housing. The following is a synthesis of what we came up with in the way of ideas. They are meant as a beginning point. I present them here in the hope that it will have us all consider more carefully the importance of the continuance of low-impact living; and in the hopes it will inspire thought and debate that will lead us to a truely unique Wendell solution - protection against unmaneable growth while maintaining our right to simple life practices.

1) Legally define low-impact house -i.e.
   a. owner built
   b. building cost less than 15,000
   c. solar design and well insulated
   d. define max sq. ft. per person
   e. low water consumption
   f. composting toilets, privies, and greywater systems
2) On group owned land encourage clustering of homes by allowing
   a. shared driveways
   b. shared wells
3) Require 40% of all housing permits issued each year be for environmentally low-impact housing
4) Require all those who get a permit to build in Wendell take a rural living workshop offered by the town to include
   a. understanding wetlands, watertables and residential sources of pollution
   b. local wild life and their habitats
   c. environmentally sensible driveway and housing locations
   d. etc.--the idea here is no matter who we are we all could stand to learn more about appropriate living for a rural environment
5) Institute a minimum tax per household in order to ensure that each home carries its town financial weight regardless of size or assessed value. Offer a town work option of equivalent dollar value to those who choose. (Current taxing methods want to discourage smaller, more environmentally sound housing out of a real concern of not being able to generate enough tax revenue)

These ideas have been presented to the planning board. There is an openness to them but a sense that not all the changes called for fall into their juristiction. For instance, composting toilets and privies fall under the Board of Health. Currently a B.O.H. study group is researching the function and safety of these as systems. Other things

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YARD HOURS
MON.—FRI. 9 to 4
SAT. 9 to 1

Letters Cont.

cont' from page 8

such as approvable greywater systems and a special catagory of building codes for low-impact housing (e.e. steeper stairs to the second floor, lower cieling heights, etc) may have to be taken up with the State.

And the question of ever increasing land prices will have to be addressed, finding a way to get land once and for all out of the speculative market is an important part of this.

Its a change in the way of American thirking to consider basing our homes and life-habits on human need as opposed to human desire but it is mostly the most profound change we can strive for in order to sustain our planet.

Rosie Heidkamp

WENDELL - A SPECIAL PLACE - A SPECIAL TIME

Wendell is in the unique position of benefiting from being a small town with much of its land environmentally ptotected. Wendell is far enough away from the five-college area to limit uncontrolled growth. For many of us Wendell is just far enough to be buffered and just close enough to enjoy some of the benefits of the five-college area.

In recent years our understanding of the environment and its sensitivities has matured and our laws have begun to reflect that maturity. Our lifestyles, products we use and our numbers combine to greatly impact the environment and our economy as never before. As we try to understand this impact and how we might live in concert with the environment as well as meet our basic needs we attempt to develop sensitive regulations.

When these regulations go into effect we will be noticing that our friends, our neighbors and our own sitations may be in conflict with the very visions we strive for. How are we to deal with these contradictions for ourselves and each other? Will we be able to keep to our visions and support each other in the process?

I believe we can manifest our visions here in Wendell. My vision includes protection of small farms, development of a self-sustaining local economy, affordable housing (initial and operating costs), environmental protection, protection of rural character. What are your visions? What might be the first steps in getting there?

Floyd Borakove

Letter to the Post Readers,

This morning when I drove out of my driveway to go to work, I noticed my mailbox next to the post it had been on the night before. Checking it out I realized that someone had taken it off the post, taken the letter my four year old daughter had written to her dad, torn open the envelope,crushed it and thrown it back in. Doesn't make any sense to me and I'm sure even Tessa's a might confused about it. It's hard to know if it's a personal attack or just someone with a strange sense of humor.

It's a hard slap of reality when someone messes with something of mine and then doesn't own up to it. I know it's against the law, but I guess I don't really pay much mind to laws myself. I usually figure if I wouldn't want it done to me than I shouldn't do it to someone else. It might be too simple a way of thinking but it's gotten me by so far okay.

Anne Diemand

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Correction: In the 1st issue an article appeared entitled "Rx for Wendell Future". The article was 2 pages long. During layout all the 2nd section became scrambled!

Our apologies to Mason and Ina Phelps for our error. The corrected portion follows.

Rx for Wendell Future

beforehand what their real estate tax benefits will be. Supporting a land bank bill would also help to limit development.

Things that slow development include, for example, zoning bylaws that contain a building moratorium or a limit on the number of building permits that can be issued per year and limits on back lot development. Strict subdivision control (which we have) will also slow development in Wendell, because of the associated infrastructure cost of the subdivision. Board of Health regulations further limiting the times when perc tests can be performed will also tend to slow development.

In addition it is important that we vote against proposed amenities that will increase Wendell's desirability and accessibility, since these are bound to attract more development to the town. A case in point is the widening and straightening of Montague Road which has resulted in a marked increase in development as well as through traffic. Continued lack of amenities will also tend to continue to attract people to Wendell because of its open space rather than because of its good roads (for example). We must weigh very carefully any proposed amenity and decide which is more important to us, the increased convenience of the amenity or the protection of Wendell's present quality of life. It is very likely that we cannot have both.

Zoning bylaws can redirect development by a number of methods. Variable density zoning can increase development in some areas and decrease it in others. Cluster zoning can direct dense development to one part of a property while leaving the rest protected. Transfer of development rights from an area where protection is desired to an area where development is less damaging and higher density is allowed can leave selected areas protected. These combined with a limit on the number of building permits and a system where priority is given to developers who use the transfer of development rights provides an incentive for developers to protect important areas. Such protected areas might be aquifers, wildlife habitat, etc. However it should be reinterated that these alone will not decrease overall development. They should only be thought of as locating unavoidable development in the least damaging places.

It is important that we support these types of ideas in order to limit and slow development and to try to make sure that development which is unavoidable will cause as little harm to the town as possible. However it is most important that as much open space be protected as possible even if this means that we won't be able to make as much money from our land.

Wendell now stands at a crossroads. One road allows ever increasing development and leads toward suburbia. This is the road we will follow if we do nothing. The other road protects as much open space as possible slows development and leads toward a relatively unchanged Wendell. Many towns have

Kindergarten Class at Swift River School Gym Show at Mahar. Photo: Myles Davis

stood at this unrecognized crossroads before us, but none have so far taken this untraveled road, which we may have to build for our selves.

Wendell has a combination of advantages not available to these other towns which allow us more control over our destiny. For one thing our late start in development has provided us with lots of examples of the horrors of development elsewhere.

For another thing the fortunate presence of so much protected open space in Wendell means that there are potential buyers for land in Wendell whose purpose it is to protect the land they purchase.

Finally the most important advantage of all is the real desire on the part of the people of Wendell to preserve open space, as indicated by the tremendous effort of many people to preserve the Stillwaters property as open space.

Will Wendell remain a sea of open space with islands of development or will it become a sea of development with islands of open space? It is up to us. In the final analysis it depends upon how many of us value Wendell's environmental future and quality of life more highly than we value the extra money we can get by developing our land into just another suburb.

INA & MASON PHELPS

A Remembrance of Jack Ellis

My partner and I are creating a little homestead here in the woods of Wendell. Jack has been hauling woodchips, sand, and gravel for us over the years; and I've always looked forward to his trips in hopes of hearing a little of his Yankee wisdom and his comments upon the progress we'd made.

The last load he delivered to us was about a week before his death, at which time he gave us a gift. He got out of his truck and talked a spell. He said he was in a hurry, but he spent 20 - 30 minutes telling us of his boyhood experience when he had a job mending fences on what is now our land. He explained how what is now all wooded was cleared pasture land then ... and what life was like.

Thanks, Jack. Keep up the good work. We miss you.

Sharon Gensler

doug tanner
fiddle * guitar * banjo
lessons gigs etc.
544-2067

★★★★★★★ Town Elections ★★★★★★★

May 2

POLLS SHALL OPEN AT
10am. AND SHALL CLOSE AT 8pm.

Article 1: To choose all on one ballot, One Selectman for 3 years, one Assessor for 3 years, One Board of Health member for 1 year, One Board of Health member for 3 years, Two School Committee members for 3 years, Two Library Trustees for 3 years, One Planning Board member for 5 years, One Road Commissioner for 3 years, One Cemetery Commissioner for 3 years, One Treasurer for 2 years, One Moderator for 1 year, and One Tree Warden for 1 year, or take any action thereon.

★

Board of Selectmen

3 year term

THEODORE E. LEWIS

for re-election

★

Assessor

3 year term

JESSIE WETHERBY

for re-election

★

Board of Health

3 year term

DAVID WALSH

for re-election

★

Board of Health

1 year term

SHARON GENSLER

previous appointee

I have learned much since November while filling a vacant position on the Board of Health and realize there is much more yet to learn. Before this appointment I was a member of the Board's Recycling/Solid Waste Committee. I am committed to a recycling program in town both from an environmental standpoint and as a way to lower dump costs.

I plan to communicate with and work closely with other town boards and departments to help protect Wendell's fragile environment, which ultimately affects the health of our present residents and that of future generations. We need to protect our aquifers and groundwater from hazardous or toxic waste, both human and chemical. We need to develop safe human waste disposal systems (composting toilets, privies, grey water systems) and educate ourselves and each other on ways to live in harmony upon the earth.

I would appreciate your vote on May 2nd and also your input as to ways the Board of Health can better serve you.

Matt D. Stamell
Luthier
Expert repairs to violins, violas, celli, string bass & guitars
Construction of steel string guitars
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★

Board of Health

2 year term

ROSEMARY HEIDKAMP

previous appointee

I am concerned with keeping a spectrum of simple living choices available to Wendell residents while at the same time protecting water and the environment. It shouldn't have to cost a great deal, nor be overly environmentally disruptive to live a basic life on the Earth.

Currently the Board of Health has a nine member study group researching the effects of various human and household waste disposal systems on our water supply. i.e. composting toilets, outhouses, grey-water systems and septic systems. If sound results are found I would like to see the Board of Health offer owner builder plans and guidelines for these systems.

★

School Committee

DIANE KURINSKY 3 year term

My name is Diane Kurinsky and I have lived in Wendell since 1974. During that time, I have been involved with Swift River School as the parent of three children and as a citizen concerned with quality education. I have worked on the issues of pre-school education, quality day care, and extra-curricular activities for children. My experience with education is not limited to my involvement as a parent. I have also been a teacher myself for many years. I have taught in all levels of education from pre-school through university levels and currently teach family therapy at the University of Massachusetts, as well as parents education groups at the Y.M.C.A. in Greenfield.

This experience on both sides of the issues in education enables me to have a comprehensive picture of the challenges we face in our efforts to deliver high quality, affordable education to our children. I am acutely aware of the enormous pressure on schools and parents as we try to raise capable, responsible children who are able to cope with the demands of modern life. I think that my experience as an educator, in addition to my own parental struggles, qualify me to serve the Town as a member of the School Committee.

JAMES R. SAWYER
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★

School Committee

3 year term

BLANK

★

Library Trustee

3 year term

CHRIS WINGS

I moved to Wendell in 1986 and soon became a regular "customer" at the Wendell Public Library. I have been attending the Library Board of Trustees meetings for the last several months and enjoy being part of the behind the scenes functioning of the Library. I feel I am well suited to the position of Library Trustee because I am a responsible worker, I work well in groups, and I love libraries and books.

★

Library Trustee

3 year term

OLGA HOLMBERG

*write-in candidate

I am a write-in candidate for the position of Library Trustee. I have been a taxpayer in Wendell since 1972; and I've lived here with my husband, Ken, and my son since 1982. My library experience includes a Masters of Library Science from Indiana University (1978), Western Regional Library System Employee (1978-81), and Palmer Public Library, Director (1981-present). I hope my practical experience as a librarian can be of use to the Library and town of Wendell.

MIKE WING (617) 544-7601
HILLTOP AUTO REPAIR
FOREIGN & DOMESTIC
WICKETT POND RD WENDELL, MA 01379

Planning Board

5 year term

RAYMOND AVERY

for re-election

Ray was born in Wendell and has always lived in Wendell Depot. He has seen the population as low as 300 people. He would like to keep Wendell a rural community. He says "We can't stop growth but we can control it and direct it."

Ray has been on the planning board for over 10 years. He is involved in specific projects with the planning board and feels strongly about it continuing.his work on these projects.

The Planning Board has 5 members and although other members may be younger and newer in town, he hopes they appreciate having an older person on the board who has been in town 60 plus years. Ray quotes,"We can use experiences from the past to better our future."

PRUDY SMITH

I moved to Wendell from a small Vermont town about six years ago. Here I was thrilled and impressed by the strong, open community and friendliness of so many. I have grown to love this town and feel it is time for me to further my commitment to Wendell, to help the Planning Board, preserve and protect the town character we all need and love.

I spent much of this past summer working to prevent subdivision and development of the "Wolfe/Stillwaters/Wendell Wilderness" property. Having grown up in a small Cape Cod town (the fastest growing part of Mass) I am very familiar with the effects of unplanned growth on rural character. Unbridled development means spiraling costs to the town including the environment. One has only to look to neighboring towns to realize this effect.

I am committed to protecting the ecological/human balance in Wendell and to ensure a safe and affordable "habitat" for us all. My training as a forester and in human ecology have helped prepare me for this position.

I would appreciate your vote, comments and suggestions so as to meet the needs of all residents.

Road Commission

3 year term

JOSEPH HARTJENS

for re-election

Cemetery Commission

3 year term

THOMAS BARDSLEY

for re-election

Moderator

1 year term for re-election

KATHY-ANN BECKER

I am running for re-election to a fourth term and would appreciate your vote.

Please vote on Election Day and at the Annual Town Meeting.

Treasurer

2 year term *write-in candidate

previous appointee

CAROLYN U. MANLEY Lockes Hill #2

Due to some confussion regarding my nomination papers, my name will not be appearing on the annual ballot. I am, however, enthusiastically running for Town Treasurer.

I have enjoyed filling this post during the past year and hope to continue to do so.

I would appreciate your support by either writing my name in under the Treasurer category, or picking up one of my stickers outside the town hall on voting day. Please be sure to put an X after my name.

Please write the following on the ballot:

Carolyn U. Manley
Lockes Hill Rd.
Wendell, Ma.

Please come out and vote.

Tree Warden

1 year term

DANIEL BACIGALUPO

for re-election

VOTE MAY 2 10am-8pm

Bob Ellis discussing work project at the meeting house re-juvenation day.
photo Mez Davis

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SLIPPERY MOON

DANCE PARTY - To benefit the SALMON REVIVAL RUN (up the Connecticut River)

Where: Wendell Town Hall

When: Friday the 13th (May) 9 - 11:30

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Preliminary Summary
1988 Annual Town Meeting Warrant

(Note: The following figures are preliminary, working numbers for the Fiscal '89 budget. If the Town were to accept the amounts at these levels, the total budget would exceed the levy limit by about $257,000, requiring an increase in the tax rate by about $12 per thousand. Because the Finance Committee and Selectboard have found such an increase unacceptable, they have asked the three schools to lower their budget requests. The initial requests from the schools, reported below, amounted to an increase of about 50% over last year's school budgets.In February the Finance Committee recommended a 35% increase in the salaries of all town officials and clerks, as part of a five year program to bring these salaries up to the minimum wage. In spite of the financial pickle we now find ourselves in, the Finance Committee still strongly recommends these increases, which would total about $5200 for Fiscal 1989. The Selectboard is now considering postponing the Annual Town Meeting to allow the schools time to reconsider their budgets.)

TOWN MEETING DATE HAS NOT BEEN SET AT PRESS TIME.

Article 2: To hear the report of Town Officials, or take any action thereon.

Article 3: To authorize the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of revenue.

Article 4: To fund town government:

General Government Subtotal	31,535
Protection Subtotal	15,771
Health and Sanitation Subtotal	40,031
Highways Subtotal	124,917
Veterans Subtotal	7,176
Schools Subtotal	481,519
Libraries Subtotal	6,505
Interest, Insurance,Assessments, Sub.	53,598
Cemetaries Subtotal	850
Unclassified Subtotal	5,250
Total Article 4	767,152

Article 5: To raise funds for payment of principal and interest on Swift River addition. 21,982

Article 6: To raise funds for payment of principal and interest on the Highway Garage/Fire Station.23,650

Article 7:To raise funds for payment of principal and interest on Highway Truck: 7,460

Article 8: To raise funds for the continuation of the General Municipal Assistant Program. 18,000

Article 9: To raise funds for the payment of principal and interest on the Fire Department pumper. 15,000

Article 10: To raise funds to be put into the Stabilization Fund for the 1991 tax revaluation. 10,000

Article 11: To raise funds for the Administrative Assistant Program. 5,706

Article 12: To raise funds to be put into the Stabilization Fund fo defray the costs of future capital expenditures. 40,000

Article 13:To raise funds for the Reserve Fund. 5,000

Wendell Meetinghouse Grows Stronger

Twenty years ago thousands of Americans were starting an exodus away from the ultra-modern, ultra-individualistic and ultra-alienated post-war life style in search of more meaningful connections with the earth and with one another. Two decades of experience has tempered our vision of imminent social revolution, but the age-old yearning for community hasn't vanished. Many among us still harbor the dream of building a powerful and compassionate community (center) able to serve the microcosm of Wendell as well as reach out into the greater community beyond.

It is in this spirit that the Wendell Meetinghouse has been launched by a growing circle of local friends. Begun as a non-denominational Sunday gathering in the old Wendell Church, the project has rapidly expanded to cultural, political and artistic dimensions.

Bundled against the bitter cold the circle came together every Sunday through the late Autumn and Winter, to sing and chant and speak of concerns for the world in these unique times. Sometimes, people used the occasion to share deeply their own struggles receiving love and support in return. Other times, the group exchanged news and stories, laughing together and nibbling cookies. Always there was abundant song; joyous, resounding, soulful song.

Needless to say, the Sunday ritual grew and deepened, attracting curious visitors from around the Valley and out of state. At times over 30 folks have gathered.

With the changing season, 2 nucleus of Meetinghouse members began meeting evenings to continue addressing old questions concerning the future of the fledgling project: What is the basis for lasting community? What is our vision of community here for ourselves? our families? our town? How can we share this vision? How can we build our own special place and also stay connected with the outside world?

Over potluck suppers every other Wednesday, the group grappled with these metaphysical subjects as well as more concrete issues like decision making, organizational structure and planning numerous up-coming events (like slide shows, concerts and sing-alongs). There is a rich and portentous strength reflected by a committee that can wrestle with the ethics of paying insurance in one breath and plan to install the new Wendell free box in the next.

In sum, the potential uses of the new Meetinghouse are staggering: some see creating a space for art and dance workshops; others a place for Spanish classes and music jams. Many see the project as an evolving network of supportive neighbors transcending the artificial security of life insurance; a true community center - a home for the peoples' collective meditations.

We have begun!

by Dan Botkin

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